

## AFIOH earns base's highest honor

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

The Air Force Institute for Operational Health's contributions to homeland security in support of the 2005 Presidential Inauguration earned participants in the Silent Guardian Project the base's highest honor.

Brig. Gen. Tom Travis, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, presented the Commander's Trophy to AFIOH on May 25. While predecessor elements of this organization had previously won the award, it is the first time that AFIOH has earned the honor outright.

Col. James Neville, AFIOH commander, explained that the award was earned on the strength of AFIOH members effectively deploying Epidemic Outbreak Surveillance (EOS) technology to the Military District of Washington. Called the Silent Guardian Project, this EOS program demonstration, Colonel Neville noted, involved rapid deployment of a \$15 million advanced biological surveillance system.

"The stellar team effort directly contributed to the group's accomplishment of a first-ever demonstration of an integrated advanced surveillance system," Colonel Neville said.

The Air Force Surgeon General had selected the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. as the primary processing site, while six Military District of Washington treatment facilities supported the project as collection sites. AFIOH personnel converted research laboratory space into a clinical laboratory while also setting up for processing the six MDW collection sites. Their involvement included training MDW personnel and transporting hundreds of patient samples and tons of specialized equipment.

"AFIOH set a new standard for bio-surveillance efficiency and pathogen identification by cutting diagnosis time from weeks to hours. These accomplishments expanded force health protection and homeland security with advanced medical capability," he said.

The stellar team effort directly contributed to the group's accomplishment of a first-ever demonstration of an integrated advanced surveillance system.

Col. James Neville  
AFIOH Commander



Photo by Kendahl Johnson

Major Mike Ingram, endemic disease section chief, 1st Area Medical Lab, demonstrates the Joint Biological Agent Identification and Diagnostic System to Brig. Gen. Tom Travis, commander of the 311th Human Systems Wing, and Eric Stephens, deputer director of the wing. The device was designed to improve detection of biological warfare agents.

## Agent detection device tested at Brooks

By Elizabeth Castillo  
Discovery writer

Brooks City-Base was the recent host to the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center personnel, who conducted a series of training and testing sessions on a revolutionary biological warfare agent detection device.

The device, called the Joint Biological Agent Identification and Diagnostic System, or JBAIDS for short, is the latest in biological warfare technology. The 40-pound apparatus is capable of simultaneously detecting Biological Warfare Agents and other pathogens of operational concern in just 40 minutes.

JBAIDS is a real-time Polymerase Chain Reaction technology designed to rapidly identify biological agents and is a replacement for the currently fielded Ruggedized Advance Pathogen Identification Device.

"It adds some additional functionality and capabilities and can more easily identify agents," said Capt. Robert Eskridge, JBAIDS test director out of Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

AFOTEC, based at Kirkland AFB, was the lead in operational testing and was chosen to conduct the tests at

Brooks' EMEDS site. The Army Medical Department also provided continuing technical assistance and training.

The Air Force Institute for Operational Health was responsible for preparing biological samples to be tested by the JBAIDS system. The responsibility of making the samples fell on the shoulders of the scientists at the AFIOH laboratory, where samples were inoculated into the appropriate mediums and sent to the field to be tested by the labs. AFIOH also had two lab technicians on the EMEDS site working hands on with JBAIDS.

"We simulated being deployed on a remote location and tested the samples as if we were deployed," said Tech. Sgt. George Viale of AFIOH.

The device is a laptop connected to an analyzer that is small enough for service members to travel with it into war, thus eliminating the need to send samples to a laboratory. The lab technicians are responsible for prepping the samples which, depending on the medium, can take an hour and a half to three hours. This preparation eventually leaves the technician with pure DNA.

See JBAIDS testing/Page 4



Discovery's award winner — Page 14



Money management — Page 15



2005 Sports Day results — Page 18





The Discovery is published by Prime Time Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the United States Air Force, under exclusive contract with Brooks City-Base, Texas.

This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services. Contents of the Discovery are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the United States Government, the Department of Defense or the United States Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or Prime Time Corp. of the products or services advertised.

Everything in this publication is edited, prepared and provided by the 311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs Office of Brooks City-Base. Material for the Discovery should be typewritten, double-spaced and submitted to 311HSW/PA, 2510 Kennedy Circle, Brooks City-Base, TX 78235-5115 by noon the Wednesday prior to the week of publication. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. Articles may also be submitted by fax by calling 536-3235 or by e-mail.

Articles may be submitted by email to Kendahl.Johnson@brooks.af.mil or to Discovery@brooks.af.mil.

The Discovery is published every other week on Friday. Contact the editor at 536-5141 for more information.

Discovery advertising

Deadline for display advertising is noon the Friday preceding the publication date. To advertise in the Discovery, call 675-4500 or send advertising copy to Prime Time Military Newspapers, P.O. Box 27040, San Antonio, Texas 78227.

Discovery Editorial Staff:  
Brig. Gen. Tom Travis  
311th Human Systems Wing Commander  
Larry Farlow  
Director of Public Affairs  
Kendahl Johnson  
Editor — kendahl.johnson@brooks.af.mil  
Rudy Purificato  
Chief Writer — rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil  
Elizabeth Castillo  
Staff Writer — elizabeth.castillo@brooks.af.mil

Tech. Sgt. Anita Schroeder  
Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.  
Staff Sgt. Brandy Bogart

Discovery logo by Arlene Schirmer



Sylvia Black, Publisher  
Pia Goodman, Prod. Mgr.  
Pat McCain, Classified Mgr.  
Diane Bohl, Sales Manager  
Sherry Snoga, Account Exec.  
Brandy Davis, Account Exec.

Advertising  
(210) 675-4500  
FAX:  
(210) 675-4577  
E-mail:  
sblack@txdirect.net



Newspapers

Community Newspapers:  
North San Antonio Times — Northside Recorder  
Bulverde Community News — Southside Reporter  
The Herald

Military Newspapers:  
Fort Sam Houston News Leader  
Lackland Talespinner — Kelly USA Observer  
Medical Patriot — Randolph Wingspread  
Brooks Discovery

Specialty Publications:  
Daily Commercial Recorder — Que Pasa!  
S.A.Kids

Graphics & Printing Services:  
Prime Time Graphics  
Christopher Press (Web printing)

William A. Johnson  
President  
Gregg R. Rosenfield  
Senior Vice President Sales  
and Marketing

The Discovery is online.  
Go to <http://www.brooks.af.mil/HSW/PA/discovery>

## “It’s time to recycle!”

By Ramon Cintron  
311th Human Systems Wing

Does recycling seem like an antiquated concept, or at least something that’s just not important any more? Maybe, maybe not. But consider this: In one year, the energy conserved by the current level of recycling in the United States saves enough energy to power nine million households for an entire year.

There are many different types of products that can be recycled. At Brooks City-Base, there are four recycling categories: aluminum cans, paper, cardboard, and cell phones.

Of these four things, aluminum is king. According to the Aluminum Association, producing a recycled-aluminum ingot takes less than 10 percent of the energy required to produce an aluminum ingot from raw ore. Unfortunately, according to the Container Recycling Institute, over one trillion aluminum beer and soda cans have been thrown in American trash bins over the last three decades.

Used-can recycling rates improved greatly in the first two decades of that period, but over the last decade the percentage of cans recycled has been decreasing—from 65 percent in 1992 to 48 percent in 2002. The U.S. EPA notes that American consumers currently throw away enough aluminum to rebuild the entire U.S. commercial airliner fleet every three months. “Look - up in the sky - it’s a bird, it’s a plane, it’s aluminum waste!”

Brooks is currently working very closely with several companies to facilitate recycling for 311th Human Systems Wing personnel. The Noah’s Project and the Concept Cellular International are two companies that provide Brooks no out-of-pocket expenses or service fees for recycling aluminum cans and cell phones. But benefits don’t stop there. Not only is the amount of waste that flows to the landfill reduced, but a percentage of the proceeds is distributed to charity.

Now, it’s time to recycle! Although it is a 100 percent voluntary program, you can start doing your bit for the environment and your community. Be part of the Brooks City-Base Recycling Program.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

Col. Alvarado, vice commander of the 311th Human Systems Wing, and environmental engineer Ramon Cintron promote recycling aluminum cans and old cell phones.

## Reenlistment is milestone in Airman’s career

By Senior Master Sgt. Mike Walljasper  
311th Human Systems Wing

Reenlisting in the United States Air Force is a milestone in an Airman’s career. About every four years or so, enlisted members weigh their options and decide to reenlist or return to civilian life. For some, many factors are considered during that decision juncture; operations tempo, job satisfaction, leadership, base facilities, member/family satisfaction with the Air Force way of life. For others, like me, it’s a no-brainer and I just ask Military Personnel Flight where I need to sign to reenlist.

Statistics show that the first reenlistment presents our youngest troops with the most challenging choice. At this juncture in a young person’s life, they have to reflect on their goals and desires and decide if contin-

ued service will satisfy their needs. The Air Force has outstanding technical schools and state-of-the-art training, which makes many of our young people very marketable to outside organizations. So it goes, do I stay or do I go? Regardless of the choice, any member should be very proud they served the greatest country in the world.

For those who stay, it is a new beginning. Four to six year of your life is not really that long, but when you start talking about eight to 10 years it is significant. The Brooks Top Three Association recognizes that fact and decided to, beginning in 2005, honor first-term reenlistees with an Oath of Enlistment Coin. Each coin will have the members name engraved on it and the coin will be presented at an appropriate forum. The gesture is not only to recognize their decision, but also to again welcome them to the Air Force family.

## Summer — a season to exercise safety

By Lt. Gen. John Bradley  
Commander of Air Force Reserve Command

“There are no second acts in American lives,” F. Scott Fitzgerald once wrote.

Memorial Day Weekend signaled the start of summer, traditionally a time of fun and sun. During the 101 Critical Days of Summer, we sometimes try to do too much because of the extra sunlight.

Here are suggestions on how to keep healthy and safe this summer:

Alcohol consumption — Don’t drink and operate vehicles, such as automobiles, boats, jet skis, etc. If you drink, do it moderately and always appoint a designated driver.

Traveling — Be sober, vigilant and well-rested. Ensure everyone wears a seatbelt.

Watercraft — Know your craft and use personal floatation devices. Use caution when operating boats and jet skis, staying away from other boaters, swimmers and jet skiers.

Motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles — Don’t operate any of them without proper training and personal

protective equipment. Always remain vigilant and drive defensively.

Outdoor activities — Before and after athletic activity, take a short moderate-to-brisk walk to improve circulation rather than stretching, which experts say contributes to muscle strain. Know your limits and don’t overdo it. Avoid prolonged exposure to the sun, use sunscreens and drink plenty of water.

Swimming — Swim with a buddy in known waters and don’t drink.

In the past few years we’ve been made more aware of the need for diligent force protection. We need to apply this same kind of vigilance off duty during the 101 Critical Days of Summer.

Most mishaps involve one or more of the following factors: alcohol, fatigue, darkness, bad weather, poor judgment, inappropriate risk-taking. Let’s use common sense, plan ahead and be prepared.

An “it-will-never-happen-to-me” attitude is not a guarantee but rather a recipe for disaster. Take care of your family and of your Air Force family. Be alert and prevent incidents that could cause a lifetime of regrets. Let’s all enjoy the months of summer, but enjoy it responsibly.



# Bases prepare as 2005 hurricane season begins

By Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample  
American Forces Press Service

Forty years may seem like a long time, but not long enough for people in Florida. The 2004 season was the first time since 1964 that Florida was slammed by four hurricanes in one season and caused \$1.7 billion in damage.

This year's hurricane season, which began June 1, may prove to be just as stormy.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration scientists predict a 70-percent chance of above-normal hurricane activity in the Atlantic region.

The outlook calls for 12 to 15 tropical storms, with seven to nine becoming full-fledged hurricanes and three to five bulking up to become major hurricanes. The threat of hurricanes in the Pacific is below normal, scientists said.

"Each year, from June through November, Americans living on the Eastern seaboard and along the Gulf of Mexico face an increased threat of hurricanes," President Bush said. "To prepare for the 2005 hurricane season, I urge all our citizens to become aware of the dangers of hurricanes and tropical storms and to learn how to minimize their destructive effects."

In 2004, many Airmen living in the Florida region assumed they were ready, but they were not prepared for the destruction that fell upon them.

Hurricane Ivan was the monster that wreaked the most havoc. It caused the evacuation of 20,000 neighboring Eglin Air Force Base Airmen, civilian employees and their families before it struck Sept. 14.

Immediately after the storm, base officials used jet skis to assess damage



Photo by David Kidd

Hurricane Ivan severely damaged the community center beach house here. The beach house provides beach access for servicemembers and their families.

throughout portions of an off-base housing area. Ivan's 90-mph winds stirred up a storm surge that flooded much of that housing area's waterfront property and left 200 off-base families homeless, like Maj. Joseph Siedlarz.

While he stood next to his 48-inch television, which had floated outside his living room and come to rest in a field next to his home, Major Siedlarz said water got so deep in his house that his friend launched a kayak from his kitchen.

"I learned that material things don't really matter," said the major, who works at Air Force Special Operation Command Headquarters at Hurlburt Field, Fla. "But you can't replace photos or family videos, so I suggest everyone take special care of those items."

Tech. Sgt. Diane Thomas, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the personnel and family readiness section of the family support center, said the storm opened her eyes. The arrival of Hurricane Ivan was the first time she was activated as a member of a family assistance center, which is a team of people who can help hurricane victims during their times of need. The team consists of chaplains, housing and lodging officials, Red Cross volunteers, an Air Force Aide Society representative, finance and legal specialists and the family support center staff.

"The number of people who visited our (center) was overwhelming," Sergeant Thomas said. "We had 500 spouses left behind by their (military) spouses who deployed to the war. They were expected

to put up the plywood themselves and fill out a travel voucher for the first time in their lives."

In the three weeks after Hurricane Ivan, center officials estimated they had helped about 5,000 people.

For Ivan alone, Hurlburt officials estimated the damage to be \$52 million. Eglin officials guessed it to be \$86.9 million. Fortunately, no one from either base was injured.

On a beach on Passage Key Island, Fla., beachcombers found a World War II-era bomb that was washed ashore by one of the hurricanes. Airman 1st Class Ed Howell, an explosive ordnance disposal specialist from MacDill AFB, Fla., placed a charge on it and destroyed it Oct. 13.

There was a ray of hope among all the destruction. An aircrew from the Air Force Reserve Command's 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron at Keesler AFB, Miss., flew 15 times into Hurricanes Ivan and Jeanne and tested a new weather radar system. They flew a WC-130J Hercules, a modified version of a C-130, which bucked 155 mph winds and flew straight into the eye of hurricanes to gather critical information about active storms.

At the time, the C-130J's weather radar could not penetrate the high-density rain fields characteristic of hurricane conditions, said Maj. Clifton Janney, 418th Flight Test Squadron project pilot and WC-130 flight commander.

"This weather avoidance radar operates outside the hurricane and looks in," he said

Once tests are complete, experts hope to better predict hurricane paths and speed.

"There are no second acts in American lives," F. Scott Fitzgerald once wrote.

Memorial Day Weekend signals the start of summer, traditionally a time of fun and sun. During the 101 Critical Days of Summer, we sometimes try to do too much because of the extra sunlight.

Here are suggestions on how to keep healthy and safe this summer:

Alcohol consumption — Don't drink and operate vehicles, such as automobiles, boats, jet skis,

Air National  
Guard  
7 x 7



# Brooks youth say ‘YES’ to AFAS program of job, education incentives

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

High school dependents of active duty military personnel at Brooks City-Base may say ‘YES’ to an Air Force Aid Society program with a positive acronym that is designed to help youngsters earn financial credit for postgraduate studies while they learn a job skill.

Called the Youth Employment Program, this initiative has for years provided Air Force dependent youth with career and educational opportunities while still enrolled in high school. AFAS and Air Force Services are YES partners for a program where students learn valuable work skills and ‘bank’ dollar credits toward their post-secondary education while also having a positive impact on their base community.

“It’s the first time we’ve participated in the program in about eight years,” says Ron Hayes, Brooks Youth Services teen coordinator. Brooks is among 10 Air Force Materiel Command bases that AFAS has selected to participate in YES for the 2005-2006 program year that began June 1 and ends May 31, 2006. Air Force-wide, 86 bases from nine Major Commands are participating in the program.

“The short-term goal of the program is to help adolescents obtain meaningful employment skills. The long-term goal is to help them earn funds for post high school education,” said Judy Kaylor, AFAS education services assistant manager.

Program participants ‘bank’ \$4 in grant funding for every hour

volunteered in an approved on-base job. Students can accumulate as much as 250 hours over all four years of high school combined, for a potential of \$1,000 applied toward future academic or vocational-technical training. Additionally, participating bases are credited with \$2 for every volunteer hour completed. This money is used to support base youth program enhancements not to exceed \$10,000 annually.

AFAS officials further explained that student dollar credits will be awarded in grant form once high school graduation and post-secondary education enrollment is verified. YES fund credits are limited to tuition, books, fees and other direct educational expenses.

According to YES rules, participating students must enroll in college or a vocational-technical program and access program funds within one year of graduating from high school.

Program eligibility is limited to dependent sons and daughters of active duty Air Force members who are assigned to an AFAS-selected base. “To be eligible, a student must have one of their parents on active duty,” Mr. Hayes noted. Parent retirement or separation from the service prior to a participating dependent’s high school graduation immediately terminates the student’s eligibility. AFAS officials say that credits earned up until eligibility is terminated are held in an account until the student graduates.

The local YES enrollment process begins with Mr. Hayes interviewing student candidates,

followed by Youth Services director approval. “Students who are selected must work as volunteers in a non-paid job that is not money-producing,” Mr. Hayes noted.

YES-eligible base jobs include assistant positions that are clerical, administrative, recreational and customer support. Students can also volunteer as library, coaching, law enforcement,

youth programs and squadron administrative assistants. They can also serve as journalist interns, marketing clerks, groundskeepers, fitness specialist trainees, junior camp counselors, summer reading program assistants and legal office receptionists. To obtain a complete list visit AFAS’s website or email [jkaylor2@afas-hq.org](mailto:jkaylor2@afas-hq.org) or [ed@afas-hq.org](mailto:ed@afas-hq.org).

YES volunteers are prohibited from being placed in positions that support the thrift store, chapel, base retail operations or waitressing. Red Cross positions are permitted when AFAS and the Youth Services director pre-approve the placement.

YES candidates must coordinate their initial interview with Mr. Hayes by calling the Youth Center at 536-2515.

## JBAIDS testing

from page 1

Technicians then load the DNA samples into a carousel inside the analyzer where it runs for about 40 minutes in a series of heating and cooling cycles. This process breaks the DNA down, primes it and splits it apart and makes duplicates. As the DNA gets multiplied, the device is then capable of detecting whether or not there is an agent present.

According to Captain Eskridge, the JBAIDS device is designed to enhance BWA detection, with additional capabilities that can analyze more agents. These capabilities allow JBAIDS to accurately identify specimens containing an agent at least 85 percent accuracy per test. It is also capable of pinpointing the percentage of specimens without an agent at 90 percent accuracy per test.

AFOTEC will now send a report to be validated by a joint-service Data Authentication Group. The results will then be sent to the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense for final approval. The decision for fielding will be made in September, and if JBAIDS is approved, the device could be fielded as early as this fall.

“If the technology is proven, it provides a quick identification capability and you can take it far forward,” said Captain Eskridge “you

increase your time to a biological instant.”

JBAIDS, which was designed by Idaho Technologies, Inc., is a joint acquisition project and the testing involved lab technicians and program developers from the Air Force, Navy and Army. In total there were six labs which included three Air Force labs from Travis and Lackland AFBs and Brooks. The Army’s 1st and 9th Area Medical Laboratories from Fort Detrick in Frederick, Md., also participated in the testing. The Navy conducted a parallel test aboard the USS Blue Ridge and sent a lab to Brooks from Quantico, Va.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.  
Test director Capt. Robert Eskridge of the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, demonstrates the capabilities of JBAIDS to Brig. Gen. Tom Travis and Mr. Eric Stephens.

Disrud

Genie Wright

Kens TV



Touro Univ





# Former Link trainer instructor makes nostalgic visit to Brooks

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

Nostalgia gripped 82-year-old Lee Grauke at Hangar 9 perhaps as firmly as his father had gripped a hammer when the latter helped build what was supposed to be a temporary structure to house World War I aircraft.

Mr. Grauke, who a generation later helped build Air Force aviators' skills as a Brooks Field Link trainer instructor, reminisced during a Hangar 9 visit May 26.

"They laughed at him when he showed up here with heavy tools. By the end of the day they (work crews) had asked to borrow his tools," recalls Mr. Grauke about his father Henry Grauke who helped build Hangar 9 in 1918.

The senior Grauke and his brother Charles were professional carpenters who found steady work building wooden aircraft hangars here and at Kelly Field during WWI. A total of 17 hangars were built at Brooks to support primary flight training.

"My father and uncle were building oil derrick towers in Louisiana prior to coming here. They had heard about construction work in San Antonio and became subcontract labor to build the hangars," Mr. Grauke said.

After the war, his father became a cotton farmer near San Angelo, Texas, an occupation the son wanted no part of.

"I wanted to get far away from that cotton farm," admits Mr. Grauke, the fifth of ten children born to Henry Grauke and the former Iona Waldrop in the central Texas community of Rowena. Having grown up on a farm in Harwood, he was determined to break the family farming tradition established by his paternal grandfather, Rudolph Grauke, who had immigrated to Texas from Germany in the mid-19th century.

"The Air Force always intrigued me. I enlisted in June 1941," he said. Mr. Grauke's first assignment was Brooks Field. Assigned to the 53rd Air Base, he served here from 1941-1943. "I learned on the job to be an instructor for the Link trainer. We had two models, the C-1 and C-3, as well as an advanced trainer, the ANT-18. The C-3, however, became the workhorse of them all in training pilots," he said.

The 10 x 5 foot trainer, used in ground school, was named for Edward Link. He had taken a license out on Brooks Field flight simulator inventor Col. Carl Crane's 1934 patent. The Link trainer became the standard for



Photo by Rudy Purificato  
Lee Grauke, a former Brooks Field Link trainer instructor, examines a miniature model of Hangar 9. His father helped build Hangar 9 during World War I.

World War II flight simulators. It was used to teach pilot candidates advanced training techniques involving aircraft maneuvers applied during simulated instrument flight. Brooks had 14 Link trainers, housed in hangars along the flight line.

"I worked in the third or fourth hangar (south) from Hangar 9. I'd train 16-18 (students) per flight every six weeks," Mr. Grauke remembers, saying that advanced flight training here lasted 12 weeks.

He said the Link trainers were vacuum operated powered

by a turbine. Straps tied to each side of the simulator allowed it to be flown straight and level. "We'd undo the straps to allow them (pilot candidates) to move the wings. From my desk I gave them flight maneuver commands under radio controlled conditions. I had a compatible set of controls on my desk," Mr. Grauke said. He monitored student progress during simulated flight, observing air speed and direction and a host of other variables needed to be learned before students took wing in T-6s. By the time they graduated, Mr. Grauke

noted, students had spent 12 hours in Link trainers.

He admits that his biggest problem was trying to counteract flight instructors who had opposed instrument flight. "It was difficult to overcome what the flight instructors told them (students), which was to 'fly by the seat of their pants.' By 1943 this feeling had diminished and in 1944 they finally told the students to pay attention to flight instrument training," he said.

Opposition to instrument flight had prevailed since its introduction by aviation pioneer Col. Charles Ocker, who first had advocated instrument flight in 1926. His ideas had been ridiculed, even after the first instrument flight training was conducted in 1930 at Kelly Field.

The pilots Mr. Grauke trained went on to B-25 training. After separating from the service in 1945, he later earned private and commercial pilot's licenses while also pursuing careers as a Union Pacific telegraph operator, Army helicopter instrument instructor and publishing company salesman.

He observes, "The same instrument panel used today was the same methods we used (here) for controlled landing under adverse conditions."

Allied School  
4 x 8

Consumer  
Credit

Retama Park  
3 x 6



## Military Law

Air Force civilian drug testing program changes affect command

Fieldstone  
3 x 12



BRIG. GEN. TOM TRAVIS  
311th Human Systems  
Wing commander

# ACTION LINE

## 536-2222

The **COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE** is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play. If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the **COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222**. Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:

Brooks City-Base Security.....	536-2851	Civilian Personnel.....	536-3353
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571	Military Pay.....	536-5778
311th Mission Support Group—		Civilian Pay.....	536-8370
Logistics Division.....	536-3541	Inspector General (FWA).....	536-2358
Safety.....	536-2111	Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
Housing Maintenance.....	533-5900	EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
Housing Office.....	533-5905	Brooks Development Office.....	536-3655
311th Services Division.....	536-2545	Brooks City-Base Marketing and	
59th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715	Development Office.....	536-5366
Military Personnel.....	536-1845		

## Legal briefs from Judge Advocate's office

### Car rentals on government orders

You have government orders authorizing you to rent a car. Since your TDY lasts over a weekend, you planned on driving a couple of hours to the beach on one of your free days. Any problems using your rental vehicle to take that little side trip? You should know that under DoD regulations, you may only use the rental for official business purposes.

However, you should also know that the definition of "official business" is broader than you think – it all depends on where you are going and why. Though the rules permit many diverse uses of a vehicle rented at government expense, you should be aware of the different rules before you rent your next vehicle on government orders or you could find yourself driving beyond what is permissible.

The regulations that govern the permissible uses of a rental vehicle on government orders are found in the Joint Federal Travel Regulation for military members and para the Joint Travel Regulation for civilians. If you

have any questions, contact customer service at finance at 536-5778 or 536-5779 before your next trip.

### Legal assistance available

If you need a power of attorney, will, or other legal assistance, please call the Brooks Legal Office at 536-3301. Legal assistance is available to active duty, dependents and retired military personnel. Our hours are the following: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. by appointment and Thursdays from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. for walk ins. The notary hours are the following: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 to 3:30 p.m. If you have a short notice deployment or other emergency, please call or walk in to the Legal Office at any time.

Know the rules for your  
government travel charge card

See Page 17

## FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

### VA BENEFITS ASSISTANCE

Mondays — 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Bldg. 537

A VA representative will be at Brooks weekly. Schedule an appointment to receive VA assistance in filling out your claims, screen medical records, or one-on-one consultations. A copy of one's medical records is required.

### SPONSOR TRAINING

June 14 — 10 - 11 a.m., Bldg. 537

In accordance with AFI 36-3011, sponsor training is mandatory of all first-time sponsors and those who have not sponsored within the past year. However, others are more than welcome to attend. Learn about tools and resources available for sponsors.

### SMOOTH MOVE

Feb. 15 — 12:30 - 3:15 p.m., Bldg. 537

PCSing? Hear briefings from TMO, Legal, Clinic, Finance, Housing, and the Family Support Center and ask questions. Open to all active duty members, DoD civilians and spouses. Overseas move has its own set of challenges and opportunities. Learn more about OCONUS PCS by staying after for the PCS Overseas class.

### BLENDED FAMILIES SEMINAR

June 22 — 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Bldg. 537

Blended families are not new, but they can present some unique household dynamics. If you are a member of a blended family, or considering the blended family experience, come join our discussion group and learn the following: strategies on how to make it as a stepparent, how to nurture your couple relationship, get a clearer understanding of how your feelings are not unique, and how blended families impact the children plus more.

### PRE-DEPLOYMENT BRIEFING

June 28 — 1 - 2 p.m., Bldg. 537

Mandatory briefing addresses issues pertaining to deployed service members and their families. Pre-deployment briefings are held the last Tuesday of the month. Appointments are necessary.

### NINE STEPS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM

June 29 — 1 - 2 p.m., Bldg. 537

This seminar will guide individuals through a step-by-step program proven to assist one in becoming debt-free and making wiser money choices in the future. This seminar is based on Suze Orman's book, "The Nine Steps to Financial Freedom."

Call 536-2444 to register



# Blood donation program saving lives

By Susanne Larkins  
Armed Services Blood Program

All those serving in Iraq and Afghanistan look forward to care packages from family and friends. The care packages Sgt. Erick Castro is most grateful for were sent by people he doesn't know. He never met them face to face, but they will always be a part of him through the blood they donated as part of the Armed Services Blood Program Life Force team.

Somewhere on the road between the Iraqi cities of Ramadi and Fallujah, an element of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment came under fire.

The ambush lasted several minutes. During the firefight, the armored personnel carrier Sergeant Castro was riding in was struck by a rocket-propelled grenade. In an instant, the round spun him to the floor. In the heat of the fight, Sergeant Castro and two other soldiers in the vehicle kept firing.

"I didn't think I got hurt that bad," he recalls. "I thought maybe I had a broken leg."

Moments later, he realized the RPG had passed through his left leg at the hip, all but severing it. What happened from that point remains a blur. He recalls being medevaced in a Black Hawk helicopter to the 28th Combat Support Hospital south of Baghdad, where doctors had no choice but to amputate his left leg at the hip. Critical to his treat-

ment at the 28th CSH were the transfusions Sergeant Castro received to replace the blood lost since his injury.

From the 28th CSH, Sergeant Castro was flown to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany for more operations to stabilize the wound.

A month after the attack, Sergeant Castro found himself at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, receiving more attention and starting a lengthy regimen of physical therapy. He was fitted with a state-of-the-art prosthesis made of titanium alloys that has returned much of his mobility.

Despite the devastating injury, Sergeant Castro had several things going for him. Though the RPG inflicted severe injuries on Castro and his teammates, it did not explode. Had it exploded, it would have peppered them with deadly shrapnel.

Additionally, advances in training and technology placed highly-skilled medical personnel closer to the fighting, with more advanced equipment and supplies than ever before. After the attack, fellow soldiers applied their first aid training to keep Sergeant Castro from losing too much blood while waiting to be medevaced. The next set of helping hands came in the form of responsive medevac units that gave Sergeant Castro the initial treatment he needed to survive the "Golden Hour," a term used in medical circles that emphasizes the importance of preventing shock due to excessive blood loss in the first hour following a severe injury.

All these things were critical to Sergeant Castro's survival, but the most important thing he had going for him may have been the generosity of his military family thousands of miles away who made sure blood was available to replace the blood he lost. These donations saved Sergeant Castro's life.

"I'm thankful for that," Sergeant Castro said. "I lost a lot of blood. If it wasn't for that, I wouldn't be here today."

The blood he received came through the Armed Services Blood Program, thanks to its team of dedicated donors—the Life Force. The ASBP collects blood from the military community for the military community. These Life Force contributions have saved countless lives at military medical facilities at home and around the world.

The Life Force team did not just provide blood for the facilities that stabilized Sergeant Castro. Blood provided by this elite team was delivered with precision and accuracy for each of the many surgeries he has undergone since the ambush. Sergeant Castro cannot remember how many operations he has had so far. "Somewhere in the teens," he said.

For more information on becoming a life-saving member of the Life Force team, contact the Lackland Blood Donor Center at 292-8145.



Photo by Susanne Larkins

A physical therapy technician at Walter Reed Army Medical Center helps Sgt. Erick Castro learn to use crutches when maneuvering stairs.

Vallassis  
2 x 16

Verizon  
3 x 10





## AIR FORCE BRIEFS

Paperless transition of emergency data cards complete

After decades of Airmen updating emergency contact information in their personnel records, everyone is now required to update the information online rather than visiting their military personnel flights.

Effective immediately, personnel flight officials are no longer required to print and file a paper copy of the Virtual Record of Emergency Data form in each Airman's personnel records, officials said. The paperless form provides the Air Force with information needed to contact family members if an Airman suffers a serious illness or injury, or dies while on active duty.

The vRED, which replaced Department of Defense Form 93, Record of Emergency Data in 2003, is required to be kept updated by each Airman. Now the only way to update an Airman's emergency data is by visiting the virtual MPF online.

Airmen who do not have access to a vMPF account, such as new accessions or basic trainees, must still complete a DD Form 93 until they establish an online account.

"The biggest advantage is convenience for the customer," said Maj. Yancey Cowen, a chief at the Air Force Personnel Center.

"Airmen won't have to stand in line at the MPF to make simple changes to their contact information."

Airmen are required to keep their vREDs current at all times and review their contact data at least annually, Major Cowen said. Also, every Airman

must review his or her vRED during inprocessing and before all deployments.

Personnel officials encourage all active-duty Airmen, guardsmen and reservists to update their information every six months. Civil service employees are also encouraged to update their virtual Emergency Data System contact information as needed for the same reasons. The online applications take about 15 minutes to complete.

Airman magazine changes to quarterly publication

Beginning in July, Airman magazine will be distributed on a quarterly basis versus monthly, to include the January almanac edition.

Readers can expect to see enhanced photography and changes in content, layout and design. Because of the transition, the June issue will not be published, but excerpts will be available online at [www.af.mil/news/airman/](http://www.af.mil/news/airman/).

All unit subscriptions will carry through to the new quarterly magazine. If an Airman's unit is not a subscriber but he or she would like to receive the magazine, he or she can send the address and number of military and civilian members assigned to the unit to [afnspub@afnews.af.mil](mailto:afnspub@afnews.af.mil).

Airman is the official magazine of the Air Force and a primary internal information source for secretary of the Air Force and Air Force chief of staff programs and Air Force operations. The magazine has been informing the total force since 1957.

First Sight

Farmers

Eisenhower

Aveda Inst

Freedom Stores



# A LOOK at BROOKS

What are you going to do to stay safe during the 101 Critical Days of Summer?



Airman Brian Brock  
AFRL

When I'm doing stuff outside, I will drink more water.



Tim Martin  
311th MSG

Make sure there is plenty of water on the track for people exercising, and put up flags for the heat index.



Marine Capt. Jerry Brown  
Mag 46/Aviation Supply

I will wear my seat belt while driving.



Airman Michael Gilbert  
USAFSAM

Hydrating, not over-extending myself, drinking responsibly and making sure my friends do the same.



Rosa De La Torre  
USAFSAM

I don't drink so I am the designated driver for my husband, friends and family.

Visit the Discovery online at [www.brooks.af.mil/HSW/PA/discovery](http://www.brooks.af.mil/HSW/PA/discovery)

Web Contest

Foresight Golf

Photographer

Geico



# Health Center receives technical upgrades

By Capt. Matthew Egerton  
59th Medical Squadron

The next time you visit the 59th Medical Squadron’s health center on Brooks City-Base, you will see a new computer terminal in your provider’s office or exam room. This terminal is part of an exciting new computer information system being added to the medical treatment facility’s existing technologies. Composite Health Care System II is replacing current paper-based records with a permanent, computer-based patient record, which will be accessible by authorized providers and staff throughout the Department of Defense’s Military Health System.

The 59 MDS is installing the system in conjunction with all MHS facilities, stateside and overseas, with a special module for military deployments. When fully installed, CHCS II will provide each beneficiary with a computer-based patient record. This new record is an automated, permanent computerized record that will contain your past health history, current health status and health planning recommendations.

Over several years, the MHS plans to bring CHCS II to each military treatment facility, stateside and overseas. Eventually, CHCS II computer documentation will replace all paper-based health records.

Initially, as your provider and the MTF staff learn to work with this new technology, you may experience increased waiting times as well as a slight increase in the length of your appointments. As the MTF staff becomes experienced with this new clinical information system, you will see a return to the normal process.

The DoD developed this new healthcare system for MHS facilities worldwide. This system will offer special features of direct benefit to you, your healthcare provider, the MHS staff and the DoD. The DoD MHS is committed to improving the delivery of healthcare services to all its beneficiaries.

If you have questions or want to know more about CHCS II and the schedule, contact Capt. Matthew Egerton at 536-6858.

J Perry

Fill

# Italian doctor visits Brooks for ancestral information

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

An Italian urologist attending an international medical convention in San Antonio took a side trip to Brooks City-Base May 26 to visit the place where his father trained during the Korean War.

Dr. Massimo DiGiovanni spent a contemplative few hours at Hangar 9 discussing in broken English how his father Filippo learned from U.S. Air Force instructors the intricacies of flying the C-119 cargo transport.

“He was an aviator here in 1950,” said Dr. DiGiovanni, a resident of Brescia near Milan, Italy. The journey here was based on sketchy information about his father’s career as a pilot in the Italian Air Force. The physician was only eight years old when his father was killed in Kindu, Congo, in an aircraft accident. He had become a casualty of war in this war-torn central African nation while fulfilling a non-combat role during a United Nations humanitarian relief mission.

“I have a library book from Brooks that is stamped 1950,” said Dr. DiGiovanni, referring to the only evidence he has of his father’s service here.



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Italian uruologist Dr. Massimo DiGiovanni visited Brooks City-Base-s Hanagar 9 during a personal journey to learn more about his father, who trained at Brooks in 1950 as a member of the Italian Air Force.

During the 1950s, Brooks was a hub for air evacuation and cargo transport pilot training. The 1736th Air Evacuation Squadron operated here in Building 1150 close to Hangar 9. This facility, the only other hangar remaining here other that Hangar 9, has since been converted to the 68th Information Operations Squadron’s headquarters. Besides C-119 transport flights, Brooks flying units also featured the C-47, C-131 and C-54.

During and after the Korean War, Brooks provided flight training to foreign

nationals, including those from Europe and the Far East. It ended in 1960 when the runways were officially closed.

“It’s the first time that I have come to Brooks to see where my father trained,” admits Dr. DiGiovanni. He and his brother followed in their father’s footsteps. Dr. DiGiovanni spent two years as a medical officer in the Italian Air Force, while his brother Andrea is an Italian Air Force pilot stationed in Pisa, Italy with the 46th Aero Brigade.

Randolph  
Brooks





Roadmaster  
3 x 3

Fieldstone  
3 x 12

## DPT breaks ground for research complex

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

DPT Laboratories Ltd. officially broke ground May 25 for a new research complex here that will add nearly a quarter of million square feet of facility space to Brooks City-Base’s expanding technology and business center.

The construction of a 34,000-square foot research and development laboratory and a large warehouse represents more than a \$5 million investment by this privately owned Texas company, said John W. Feik, company founder and president. The city of San Antonio contributed \$1.5 million in infrastructure improvements that supports the project, District 3 City Councilman Ron Segovia said.

“We’re very supportive and happy that DPT has decided to expand its operations at Brooks. They have a complementary mission to our biotechnology focused areas (here),” said Eric Stephens, 311th Human Systems Wing deputy director.

DPT recently developed an award-winning topical cream that promotes wound healing in collaboration with U.S. Air Force School of

Aerospace Medicine’s hyperbaric medicine researchers.

The new facilities, which are expected to be completed in about a year, will be located off the old flight line on Chennault Way. They will house about 150 employees, the majority of who will be scientists and biotechnicians involved in the development of biopharmaceuticals designed to treat skin and soft tissue.

“We did not have enough room for our technology development,” said Dr. Braham Shroot, the company’s chief scientific officer. For the past ten years, corporate headquarters of the parent company DFB Pharmaceuticals, has operated in a former downtown YMCA building. The company also operates a small laboratory in Building 125 here that employs seven to eight people.

The Brooks expansion represents one of the largest in the company’s history, Mr. Feik noted. Worldwide, the company employs 17,000 people and operates in about one million square feet of facility space for the development, manufacture and distribution of pharmaceutical products that is part of the \$30 billion U.S. pharmaceutical industry.



Photo by Rudy Purificato

San Antonio leaders who participated in the DPT Laboratores groundbreaking for a new research complex at Brooks City-Base were (from left to right): Mayor Ed Garza, city councilmen Ron Segovia and Richard Perez, DPT president John Feik, Brooks Development Authority chairman Howard Peak, County Commissioner Tommy Adkisson and DPT chief scientific officer Dr. Braham Shroot.

Compass  
3 x 3



AFCU



"RUDY"



FULL NAME/RANK:  
Rudolph J. Purificato

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:  
Multimedia Center Director,  
311th Communications Squadron

IN SIMPLE TERMS,  
WHAT DO YOU DO?:  
Besides managing a base-wide  
Multimedia Services Center and  
writing zillions of stories, I do a lot  
of breathing.

BIRTHDAY:  
August 10, 1952

HOMETOWN:  
New York City

FAMILY STATUS:  
Married to wife Emily

PERSONAL MOTTO:  
"Go the extra mile in helping  
others, for life is a marathon."

INSPIRATION:  
My wife Emily

HOBBIES:  
Writing fiction, inventing new  
recipes that 'won't choke a horse,'  
and pursuing uninterrupted slum-  
ber.

PET PEEVE:  
Emails that substitute for phone  
conversations.

I JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE  
BECAUSE:  
I wanted to substitute the instabil-  
ity of being a civilian newspaper  
reporter for the instability of being  
a government employee.

FIVE-YEAR GOAL:  
Try to write at least one million  
stories, or one million unedited  
words, whichever comes first!

ULTIMATE GOAL:  
Write books for children and the  
young at heart.

MY GREATEST  
ACCOMPLISHMENT IS:  
Marrying my wife Emily

MY MOST PRIZED  
POSSESSION:  
A clear conscience and peace of  
mind.

By Kendahl Johnson  
Discovery editor

Although Brooks City-Base has been enjoying the writing of one of the most prolific writers in the history of the Discovery Newspaper for nearly a decade now, the rest of the world is starting to take notice, as the journalist was recently recognized nationally for his work.

Writer Rudy Purificato claims to have written more articles for the Discovery than any other publication combined. Considering his career has spanned 35 years, this is quite a claim. And so it's fitting that it was his 10-part series written for the Discovery that earned him the Thomas Jefferson Award, the highest journalism award given by the Department of Defense – an award comparable to the Pulitzer Prize. "I am honored by the award," he said. "It is definitely a privilege to have received it."

Mr. Purificato was born in New York City and grew up on Long Island. He knew early in his life that he wanted to be a writer. At age seven, he remembers writing short stories and recognized that he had a "God-given gift." In high school, he was the editor of the school newspaper. He also had his first bylined article published by the local town paper. "When I saw my first article printed, I was hooked for life," he said. "I knew it would be my avocation for the rest of my life, and I have never wavered from that."

He went to Texas Christian University on an ROTC scholarship and worked on the college newspaper all four years of study. He majored in both history and journalism and graduated from TCU's respected school of journalism in 1974. He was commissioned in the Army and was initially assigned as a signal corps communications officer. When his superiors learned of his writing background, he became a public affairs officer and contributing writer to Fort Hood Sentinel weekly newspaper.

After just four years in the Army, Mr. Purificato decided to detach. "I decided to pursue a journalism career in the civilian world," he said. He started working as a beat writer and police reporter for the Temple Daily Telegram in Temple. He also became a stringer for the Austin American Statesman covering the Killeen city beat.

"It was tough because I worked the graveyard shift," he said. "Even though I had several years of experience, I was a cub reporter. I had a police monitor on my desk and was an ambulance chaser. I learned a lot but saw a lot of things I didn't want to see. It was mostly negative." Because his strength is in writing about positive things, Mr. Purificato didn't enjoy the job and left after just one year.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

Over the next few years, he would polish his journalism skills with several small Texas newspapers. He worked at the smallest daily newspaper in Texas – the Marlin Daily Democrat, where he was one of just three staffers. Six months later, he went to work for Village Press Inc. in Salado, where he stayed for three years.

In 1983, he applied for and was offered a job as director of public affairs for the Army Reserve unit at Fort Sam Houston. He would stay there for 12 years. Mr. Purificato said the job provided a variety of unique opportunities. He recalls the unusual instance at a town hall meeting where he diffused angry (and armed) farmers and ranchers whose emus and ostriches were being spooked by late-night flight operations of Army helicopters. He also had the opportunity of deploying to the Persian Gulf to be an escort to ABC News.

His job was eliminated in 1995 due to reorganization, and what was the Army's loss became the Air Force's gain. He was selected for a public affairs position at Brooks for what then was the Human Systems Center. He was an assistant editor for the Discovery before being hired as a technical writer and advocate for researchers and scientists.

Mr. Purificato has a difficult time pinpointing one specific highlight of his time at Brooks. "There have been so many," he said thoughtfully. In 1997, he deployed to Bosnia as a war correspondent covering the deployment of U.S. troops.

Another highlight was interviewing Dr. Edwin Teller, who was involved in the Manhattan project and is considered the father of the Hydrogen bomb. It would be Dr. Teller's last official interview granted to the Air Force, as he passed away not long after. He has interviewed numerous interesting and famous people, including

astronaut John Glenn and actors Lee Marvin and Vincent Price.

"Working for the Discovery is the best place I've ever worked in all my journalism assignments – both military and civilian," Mr. Purificato said. "There is an endless reservoir of stories. And it is a great reward to see a story have an impact on someone else's life."

Certainly, Mr. Purificato will never forget winning the Thomas Jefferson award in May for his series of articles profiling 10 people in Air Force history who contributed to aviation and had ties to Brooks. He first conceived the idea in 1995 and he began collecting data and doing research. He decided that 2004 would be the ideal time to write the articles because it was the centennial year of flight. "I didn't write the series to win an award," he said. "I was compelled to write it because I thought it was an interesting series."

Mr. Purificato continues to feel compelled to write. "It's almost like I am on a mission. There are so many stories out there that need to be told," he said. "I am trying to tell as many as I possibly can. I have a passion for writing and it's that passion that really drives and motivates me."



Photo by Emily Purificato

Rudy Purificato accepts the Thomas Jefferson Award from ABC-TV newsman Sam Donaldson during a May 20 ceremony at the U.S. Defense Information School at Fort Meade, Md.





# 'MONEY makes the world go round'

## Pinky Hayes uses 'green thumb' to help Brooks youth manage money

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

By all accounts, fiduciary or otherwise, Amparo 'Pinky' Hayes is an anomaly. The retired Federal Reserve Bank worker who destroyed millions of aged greenbacks is helping Brooks youth stretch their financial resources through an innovative money management 'fitness program.'

Using piggy banks, play money and game playing, the wife of Brooks Youth Services coordinator Ron Hayes engages youngsters on issues designed to educate them about money matters. Since January, she has conducted weekly money management classes at the Teen Center as part of a voluntary initiative to help them appreciate the true value of money and how it can best be used to fulfill financial goals. To Pinky, as she prefers to be called, the 'buck doesn't stop with her' regarding personal financial responsibility.

"I believe today's generation needs a lot of help in managing money. I get them to think about being realistic regarding their future in terms of jobs and investments," Pinky says with a preacher's conviction. Part counselor-confidant and full-time friend to youth, Pinky exudes genuine concern for youngsters' financial future.

"Some kids tell me they don't know what to do with money they earn other than spend it on video games or eating out. What I do is help them improve upon or create a value system regarding

money. I help them take charge of their finances," she explains.

Every class participant learns that they're not alone in trying to understand and control their financial destiny. "A pilot study revealed nearly 30 percent of people over age 50 experience some difficulty understanding finances," she noted. Pinky says Americans' financial woes, according to the study, are partly attributed to bad credit, credit card debt and not shopping for bargains. Linked to these problems are a disproportionate number of wage earners who have not saved enough money for retirement and those who have made poor and potentially ruinous investments.

Pinky gets down to money basics in her classes. Youngsters learn about money's various denominations and even who appears on the bills. "They learn the value of what money represents," she says, noting that lessons also include budgeting, investments and bankruptcy's consequences. "A third of high school students use credit cards or ATM cards. One and half million (U.S.) families filed for bankruptcy in 2001," she said.

Pinky has made progress in helping youth dissect the oxymoron 'spendthrift' by teaching thrift as a substitute for bad spending habits. "Some kids who have participated now have bank accounts. Two of them have gotten jobs because the program inspired them to go to work," Pinky confessed.

She is convinced that educating youngsters about proper money management will prepare them for a more prosperous future by creating financially sound money management habits.

"My father always told me to start saving early because you can't depend on Social Security. You have to save for a rainy day," Pinky says. The financial habits she learned from her folks stayed with her during a federal career in which she was really "in the money."

"In 1967 I got a job with the Federal Reserve Bank in San Antonio," recalls the 1960 Fox Tech High School graduate who served 15 of her 21



Photos by Rudy Purificato

Pinky Hayes conducts a weekly money management course at the Brooks Teen Center. She instructs Brooks' youth on the value of money and wise financial investing, including saving for the future.

I believe today's generation needs a lot of help in managing money. I get them to think about being realistic regarding their future in terms of jobs and investments.

Pinky Hayes  
Brooks Teen Center

civil service years with the Federal Reserve.

Initially an IBM operator, Pinky landed a job in the Cash Fiscal Agency. There she helped sort and subsequently supervise the counting of bundles of cash shipped from banks in the Federal Reserve system.

She considers her work to detect counterfeits as one of her more fascinating jobs. "Some people tried to alter one dollar and hundred dollar bills by adding zeros," she recalls, noting that one of the most obvious fakes made her laugh. "A crook tried to counterfeit a small denomination using paper towel material," she says of the bill that co-workers gawked at in disbelief.

Unlike the nationally reported incident at a Wal-Mart store several years ago where a woman tried to pass a 'fake' one million dollar bill, rare is the case where large denominations have been

counterfeited, she said.

Pinky also was involved in the destruction of old money. Money tainted by blood and other bodily fluids at crime scenes is incinerated, she says, while worn out notes are shredded by hammer mills. "The bills are first cut in half, then pulverized. The Fed used to sell the shredded money as novelties in mason jars," Pinky remembers.

The analogy of shredding money, likened to throwing one's money away through bad habits, is not lost on Pinky's money management students. To her protégés, one's financial health is only "in the pink when staying out of the red."

Her students also learn that symbolism contained in the old saying about clouds with silver linings is as counterfeit an idea as the Depression-era song "Pennies From Heaven," which offers as false a promise as zero interest credit card deals.



Pinky Hayes displays a mason jar filled with old money she helped shred as a member of the Federal Reserve. She uses it and other props to teach Brooks Teen Center youth about money management.



Among the props that "Pinky" Hayes uses during her weekly money management classes at Brooks Teen Center are samples of old money. To the left is a de-circulated one dollar silver certificate from 1935 and at right a commemorative 1976 two dollar bill.



Entertainment  
Page



# Knowing the rules for government travel charge cards

By Capt. Rhea Lagano  
311th Human Systems Wing/JA

Temporary Duty orders come in and there will be plenty of travel expenses to pay for during the TDY. How will these expenses be paid? The Government Travel Charge Card is available for any purchases related to government travel, like a TDY. Like any bill owed to a credit card company, the charges made on a Government Travel Charge Card have to be paid when due. Sounds pretty simple, right? Unfortunately, some Airmen use their Government Travel Charge Card to buy things that are not related to government travel, use it when they are not traveling for the government, and fail to pay their bill on time. Everyone needs to know the rules to stay out of trouble. So, what can it be used it for? What can happen if the rules are violated? This article will help answer those questions.

The Government Travel Charge Card is accepted at busi-

nesses just like any other credit card. Since it is issued by the United States, the government has some control over what businesses can accept the card for purchases. So, some businesses are automatically blocked from being able to take your card to pay for items. These are usually businesses that the government has decided there is no reason we should ever have to use the card during government travel for travel related expenses. For example: Blockbuster Video might be blocked.

But, not every business with little or nothing to do with official government travel is automatically blocked. So, what can the Government Travel Charge Card be used for during government trips? Simple answer: anything that is needed to buy for or during government trip/TDY that is related to expenses of the trip. Some examples: car rentals are authorized; food during the trip; gas for the car authorized to use for the trip; the authorized hotel;

to buy the airline, bus, or train ticket needed for the government trip, and ATM purchases for cash needed during the trip. That is about it. Any other purchases during a TDY or other authorized government trip, or when not traveling for the government, will probably get the user in trouble. Some examples: using the Government Travel Charge Card to buy a personal book while TDY; using the card to buy clothes during the TDY; and the big one: using the Government Travel Charge Card to buy something when the user NOT on government travel.

Might there be exceptions to these general rules? Sure. But, when in doubt about using the Government Travel Charge Card, call the first sergeant, supervisor, the credit card company, or someone in authority to tell them what is needed to use the card for an emergency personal purchase before using it for something is normally unauthorized.

What else is a user responsible for by having the Government Travel Charge Card? Like any credit card, paying the bill on time. Payment of the government travel charge card bill will usually be considered late if the credit card company (Bank of America for the Government Travel Charge Card) has not received the money due 45 calendar days after the "closing date" shown on the statement. After that date, the credit card company may start taking action to collect their money and send letters that will get the attention of a commander.

Using the Government Travel Charge Card for unauthorized purchases can get the user in trouble (remember, an unauthorized purchase usually involves buying personal stuff while on government travel or for buying anything when not traveling or TDY for the government). How? The user's commander can revoke the privilege to have a Government Travel Charge Card.

That is the easy, pain free result. He or she can also counsel or reprimand the user for misusing the card or not paying the bill on time.

Military members can be punished under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and in the most serious cases, be court-martialed, which happens more often than one might think. The rules apply to civilian card holders too, and supervisors and commanders can also take disciplinary action for their misuse of the card.

The bottom line for all: use the Government Travel Charge Card only for expenses related to government trips: gas, hotel, airline tickets, food, and similar travel related purchases while in a TDY status. Don't use it when not traveling for the government. And, don't use it for personal things that would usually use one's own credit card for, like clothes and books for personal use, whether or not on government travel orders.

## Partnership council works to become more efficient

By Ron Fry  
Air Force Materiel Command/PA

Working to bolster a partnership already recognized as a model for management-labor relations, members of AFMC leadership and the command's largest employee union have strengthened a partnership agreement that has steadily matured over the past five years.

The Command Partnership Council recently made changes to its operating agreement that reflect how the management-union partnership has evolved and strengthened. The Council consists of senior civilian leaders from across Air Force Materiel Command and local presidents of the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO. The Counsel is co-chaired by Mr. Robert Conner, executive director of AFMC, and Mr. Scott Blanch, president of AFGE Council 214.

The most significant change to the Council operating agreement is in the frequency of Council meetings. Since its inception, the Council met on a quarterly basis. But as the group has refined its processes and come to agreement on several positive initiatives, it was decided fewer formal meetings are needed, so it will now meet only three times a year. One of the three meetings will be scheduled in conjunction with the AFMC/AFGE Joint Na-

tional Labor - Management Meeting, slated to be held later this summer.

"The fact that we need fewer formal meetings is representative of the great progress this council has made," said Mr. Conner. "We've become more sensitive to each other's agendas and learned how best to communicate on management-labor issues. We have evolved into a much more efficient and responsive body."

Mr. Blanch echoed Mr. Conner's thoughts. "We have a dynamic partnership built on an important vision - labor and management working together to create and sustain an environment that takes care of our people so they can take care of our mission," he said.

The Council has formalized many initiatives that have benefited AFMC employees and in turn allowed them to better support the AFMC mission. They include establishing organizational health centers and employee assistance programs and better tracking of occupational illness and injury rates.

But the Council's crowning achievement is AFMC's alternative dispute resolution program. The command ADR program is recognized as the Air Force model for resolving workplace disputes. It's quicker and less costly than the traditional complaint process and puts less strain on AFMC's ability to accomplish its mission.

## Army scientist at Brooks passes away

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

The Brooks City-Base scientific community mourned the loss of one of its own May 10 when Dr. Steven Schuschereba passed away in Houston at age 55 after a short battle with cancer.

Colleagues, friends and family paid tribute to the former research biologist during a special memorial service held May 25 at the Brooks Chapel.

"He was very dedicated and driven by his curiosity and love of science and nature. He was also a very kind and thoughtful person who never said a bad word about anyone," said Bruce Stuck, Director of the U.S. Army Medical Research Detachment of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

At the time of his death, Dr. Schuschereba was section chief in the Cell and Molecular Biology Group that he founded at Brooks shortly after transferring here in 1992 from the Letterman Army Institute of Research at the Presidio of San Francisco, Calif. He was an internationally renowned cell and molecular biologist who during a 25-year-period spearheaded more than 30 major medical research studies involving laser injury mechanism and treatments, toxicology, cell biology and pathology.

"He did things that required a lot of energy and precision. He was a perfectionist who was open to different hypotheses. His passion was to bring the latest technologies to bear on his research," recalls Mr. Stuck, who had known him since 1973 when both worked for the Laser Safety Team at Frankford Arsenal in Philadelphia, Pa.

Dr. Schuschereba is considered one of the greatest scientists in his field. He made innumerable contributions to Department of Defense medical research, particularly in the diagnosis and treatment of laser-induced eye injuries, the assessment of the mechanisms of injury and wound healing and toxicological evaluations of various agents including hemoglobin as a blood substitute. His work contributed to the establishment of worldwide la-



Dr. Stephen Schuschereba

ser safety guidelines and scientific protocols relating to the nature and extent of laser-induced eye injuries at the cellular and molecular level.

Dr. Schuschereba is also credited with describing the efficacy of steroids and non-steroidal agents in treating primary and secondary effects of laser-induced trauma, which led to current treatment approaches for laser eye injuries.

He was also an expert in scientific methods that employed

light and electron microscopy, specialized tissue stains, autoradiography and emerging applications of proteomics and genomics. Dr. Schuschereba published pioneering work on photoreceptor transplantation and developed injury classification schemes and models of retinal injury processes that are the foundation for current and future research.

Born May 16, 1949, he grew up in Avoca, N.Y. He earned a bachelor of science degree in biological sciences from Cornell University, a master's degree in cell and molecular biology from San Francisco State University and a doctorate in medicine from the United Medical and Dental Schools at the University of London's Saint Thomas' Hospital Department of Ophthalmology.

"He was the consummate scientist," recalls Mr. Stuck, adding, "he asked the tough questions."

A day before his death, he received a letter from an English colleague who poignantly characterized how the scientific community felt about him. Professor John Marshall at the Department of Ophthalmology of The Rayne Institute at Saint Thomas' Hospital wrote, "I never had a PhD student who demonstrated the sheer grit and determination that you did over such a protracted period. Steve, all your friends in London and throughout the world know that you are a remarkable individual and one who would never give in. Somehow you managed to combine your determination and grit with a gentleness that always surprised those who had the honor of working with you."





# Brooks Sports day 2005

## Weather only delays outcome — HSG is Sports Day champion



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

The 2005 Brooks Sports Day was delayed for nearly a week because of torrential rains. Eventually, the Human Systems Group won the deciding event, the tug-of-war, and was crowned event champion.

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

A weather-induced week-long delay did not prevent the inevitable as the Human Systems Group persevered in the tug-of-war showdown Wednesday as the 2005 Brooks Sports Day champions.

Torrential rains May 26 had washed out the final Sports Day event and Wednesday's early morning deluge almost postponed the contest again. The soggy conditions at the sandpit did not dampen HSG's indomitable spirit. They had technically won the tug-of-war and overall title when the 68th Information Operations Squadron showed up late, forfeiting the event.

However, not wanting their championship tainted by a forfeit, HSG decided to go ahead with the match -- winner-take-all. "The team decided to do that. We're

good sports," said HSG commander Col. Al Burnett.

It took less than 10 seconds for the tug-of-war to be decided by a more powerful and focused team. "We take PT pretty seriously and it has paid off," said HSG sports representative 1st Lt. Chris Saldana. He said the HSG team had been preparing for Sports Day during the past year through rigorous physical conditioning.

More importantly, the team featured players who had hearts of champions as evidenced by 2nd Lt. Walt McMillan's sacrifice in the men's 100 meter dash. "Walt had pulled a hamstring, but he knew we needed the points. He ran a 10.3 that helped us win," Lieutenant Saldana said. HSG also won 4 on 4 football and softball to capture their first Sports Day title since 2002. During the past six years, HSG has won the annual base athletic competition

three times.

Two-time defending Sports Day champion Air Force Institute for Operational Health finished a distant fifth, winning only in women's basketball. The 68th IOS finished second overall, capturing victories in the 4x100 relay, women's 100 meter dash and men's basketball. Other event winners were in the 5K run, golf and volleyball; Mission Support Group in men's racquetball; and the Air Force Research Laboratory in men's and women's tennis.

### Final Standings

Fin	Team	Pts
1	HSG	46
2	68 IOS	44
3	USAFSAM	28
4	AFRL	25
5	AFIOH	22
6	MSG	20
7	USARD	15
8	AFMSA	5

## 'Band Aid' tourney doesn't stop bleeding for Brooks men's varsity softball squad

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

The Brooks men's varsity softball squad learned that even 'Band Aid' tournaments can't stop the bleeding. They also now fully understand from their painful experience at Little Rock Air Force Base last month what former pro wrestler and Minnesota governor Jesse "The Body" Ventura meant when he uttered his famous "Predator" movie line: "I don't have time to bleed."

After finishing last in a field of eight teams with a 0-4 record at the annual tournament won by Lackland AFB, the Brooks' boys of summer are putting the past behind them in anticipation of a regular season that begins next week in San Antonio.

"It was a good learning experience. The guys stuck in there and fought to the end in the good old Brooks fashion. They played their hearts out. I am proud of them," said head coach Jack Connolly.

Outgunned in virtually every offensive category, the Brooks squad fielded 11 players for a tourney that they, historically, have been competitive. Last year, the team finished third. This year, they drew the eventual champion in the opening round of the double elimination, round robin event.

"Lackland had more players on their team at the tournament than we had people try out for our squad," lamented player-coach Connolly. The War Hawks

quickly dispensed of their southside foe 30-6. Sheppard AFB dealt another devastating blow to Brooks, defeating them 21-9, while the defending 2004 Band Aid tourney champs Randolph AFB annihilated Brooks 42-0.

"We have a young team that is experiencing growing pains. We also are not a home run hitting club. There is a 12 homer limit in tournament play," Coach Connolly explained.

The end for Brooks came the next day when they lost an elimination round contest to Little Rock AFB 17-16.

What hurt Brooks most, the coach confessed, was not having key players participate in the tournament. They included the team's heart and soul, catcher and hitter extraordinaire Billy Nevis; and outfielders Frank Hayden and Jose Ramirez. "Lack of depth hurt us," the head coach admits.

Nevertheless, the coach believes the team has turned a corner in their progress as they attempt to improve upon last year's third place finish in the San Antonio Athletic Department's city league season.

Brooks is also planning to participate for the second consecutive year in the Military World Softball Championships to be held in August in Panama City, Panama. According to their coach, Brooks last year "played out of their league" in the highly competitive varsity A division. The team will compete at that event this year in the varsity B division.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

In a winner-take-all competition, the Human Systems Group won the tug-of-war, defeating the 68th Information Operations Squadron, claiming the 2005 Sports Day championship trophy.